III.—ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE HON. CHAIRMAN.

NOMINATION OF SRI P. P. UMMER KOYA TO CERTAIN COMMITTEES IN PLACE OF SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM RESIGNED.

MR. CHAIRMAN :—" I have to inform the House that Sri T. Purushotham has resigned his seat in the Business Advisory Committee and the Committee on Government Assurances and that in his place I have nominated Sri P. P. Ummer Koya, as a member of the Business Advisory Committee and the Committee on Government Assurances."

IV PRIVILEGE MOTION—(WITHDRAWN).

MR. CHAIRMAN :—" The House will remember that on 24th March 1955, I made a statement that I will in due course give my decision on the motion of privilege moved by Sri T. Purushotham.

" I have given very careful consideration to this Motion.

" I want, in the first place, to impress upon the House the importance of perfect equality between the two Houses and also the fact that in every respect the Houses are totally independent one of the other.

" Sri T. Purushotham's resolution refers to a statement made by the Hon. the Presiding Officer of the other House on 18th March 1955 in which he mentioned the number and hours of sittings of this House and that of the Assembly.

" Though this statement cannot be considered to be a breach of privilege, the inference that the Chairman has more power than he is entitled to can be drawn. In fact, a well-known Madras daily newspaper, in its edition of the 19th March 1955, stated in its report of the proceedings of the Legislative Assembly of the 18th March :

'The Chairman had, however, as much voice as the speaker '

So, Sri Purushotham cannot be said to be wrong in his interpretation of the statement of the Speaker but as I am very anxious to maintain an atmosphere of cordiality and mutual understanding between the two Houses and their presiding officers, I have decided not to take any further action beyond making this statement. In the circumstances, I request Sri Purushotham to withdraw his motion."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" Sir, I bow to your ruling and withdraw the Motion. May I be permitted to add that my only object in moving the motion was that the dignity of this House and the Chair should not in any manner be detracted."

2-50 p.m. SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN :—" Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Chair can also make a similar statement here on the floor of this House as to the number of days and the number of hours we have sat. We are also anxious to sit for longer hours, but there are certain matters over which we have no right to discuss, particularly Demands for Grants. Such a statement will also help as far as the public are concerned."